

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
Catharine Anne MAPLES et al. :
Serial No. Unknown : Group Art Unit:
Filed: Herewith : Examiner:
For: IMPROVEMENTS IN DATA STORAGE :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the
referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 6, 14 and 15 as follows:

6. (Amended) A data reader according to claim 4, wherein
said given number is variable.

14. (Amended) A method according to claim 12, wherein said
write pass number of said data items is compared with said current
write pass number to determine whether updating is required.

15. (Amended) A method according to claim 12, wherein said
given number is variable.

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R E M A R K S

Claims 6, 14 and 15 have been amended to eliminate the multiple dependency thereof to minimize the filing fee.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 31, 2001

Serial No. Unknown

MARKED UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES

IN THE CLAIMS:

6. (Amended) A data reader according to claim 4 [or claim 5], wherein said given number is variable.

14. (Amended) A method according to claim 12 [or claim 13], wherein said write pass number of said data items is compared with said current write pass number to determine whether updating is required.

15. (Amended) A method according to claim 12 [or claim 13], wherein said given number is variable.